

WEST LOOP REBOOT?

After big losses, this 'hood is fighting for the title of comeback kid **pages 6-7**

**red
eye**

Tuesday

FEBRUARY 16, 2010

redeyechicago.com

A Chicago Tribune
publication

★ **FREE** ★

CHARLES OSGOOD/
TRIBUNE PHOTO

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to drop puck **12**

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in Chicago **20**

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more beads! **17**



BLAH, BLAH BLOGGERS

Meet RedEye's bloggerati. For more blogs visit redeyechicago.com.



Scott Kleinberg
redeyechicago.com/iphone

For your inner gadget freak.



Elliott Serrano
redeyechicago.com/geektime

RedEye's favorite (and only) geek.



RedEye Royalty
redeyechicago.com/royalty

A blog run by our loyal readers.



What did you get Barack for Presidents Day?

Scott: A \$25 gift card to Applebee's.

Elliott: Some Valentine's Day chocolates I found in the clearance section.

Joel Johnson (@silksoul): Copies of TV shows he displaced with his speeches.



What's your Chinese New Year resolution?

Scott: To learn how to speak Chinese. No joke.

Elliott: To develop the Eye of the Tiger since it's the Year of the Tiger.

Paige Worthy (@paigeworthy): To ACTUALLY catch a tiger by its toe this year.



Hug world record broken. Who deserves a hug?

Scott: The guy in charge of breaking the record!

Elliott: Kevin Smith. But I'm afraid my arms won't reach around him.

Kim Z. Dale (@newetiquette): I don't know. Definitely NOT John Mayer.



31 18

TODAY'S FORECAST

Some days we wake up and wish it were July ...



WED.

30 18

This is getting really ...



THU.

31 17

... really, really ...



FRI.

31 18

... really, really, really ...



SAT.

30 20

... really, really, OLD!

2do

To relax

Join a 30-minute lunchtime meditation class complete with aromatherapy at noon Tuesdays at Equilibrium (Dearborn Station, 47 W. Polk St.). Register for \$10 at equilibrium-e3.com.

To play

Drop in for a free game night from 6:30-10 p.m. Tuesday at Cat & Mouse Game Store (2212 W. Armitage Ave.). RedEye puzzle master Sandy Weisz will be on hand to share some tips.

To disco

Catch a screening of "Saturday Night Fever" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Music Box Theatre (3733 N. Southport Ave.). Tickets are \$9 in advance at soundopinlions.org/events or \$10 at the door.



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AP PHOTO
REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

Hoosier shakeup

Democratic Indiana senator announces retirement, opening door for GOP takeover

Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON Adding to Democrats' political woes in the 2010 midterm elections, Indiana **Sen. Evan Bayh** unexpectedly announced Monday that he would not run for a third term in a Republican-leaning state, opening up a seat that his party now is likely to lose. Here are six things you should know about the story.



Coats

1 Bayh, a centrist Democrat who served as governor of Indiana from 1988 to 1996 and had a short-lived run for president in the 2008 campaign, faced a re-election challenge from former Republican **Sen. Dan Coats**. But Bayh said that did not figure in his decision to quit Congress.

2 Bayh had long been frustrated with the partisanship and gridlock that made it hard to make important policy changes in Congress, sources close to him said.

3 "After all these years, my passion for service to my fellow citizens is undiminished, but my desire to do so in Congress has waned," Bayh said.



troubled bid to hold on to control of the Senate.

4 Two Democratic House members from Indiana—**Brad Ellsworth** and **Baron Hill** (left)—are considered possible candidates to succeed Bayh, but the popular former governor's departure from the ticket gives Democrats a new burden in their already

5 It is already widely taken for granted that the midterm elections will reduce the 59-seat majority now held by the Senate Democratic caucus; the only question is how big a bite the GOP will take.

6 Bayh's is the latest in a steady stream of retirements and other bad news for the Democratic candidate field. In recent weeks, the party's prospects dimmed significantly in Delaware, where the party's preferred candidate—**Beau Biden**, son of Vice President Joe Biden—decided not to run. In North Dakota, Democratic **Sen. Byron L. Dorgan** decided not to seek re-election, leaving the conservative state an almost-certain pickup for Republicans. And New York **Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand** is facing a potentially bitter Democratic primary fight to win the seat she received by appointment after Hillary Clinton left the Senate to take on the role of secretary of state.



BIDEN

DORGAN

GILLIBRAND

IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT ...

By **Leonor Vivanco**
REDEYE

Are we happy and healthy living in the Chicago area? Not so much. That's according to the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, which asked more than 353,000 Americans in 2009 about categories including job satisfaction, healthy behaviors,

physical health and emotional health. Among metro areas, the overall ranking for Chicago-Joliet-Naperville area is 76, according to USA Today. Here now, the rankings of the top five cities and two noteworthy rivals:

- 1. Boulder, Colo.
- 2. Holland-Grand Haven, Mich.
- 3. Honolulu
- 4. Provo-Orem, Utah
- 5. Santa Rosa-Petaluma, Calif.

- 71. Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif.
- 94. New York-North New Jersey-Long Island



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RIDER'S BLOCK

My pledge to ride every CTA bus line continues. I rode the No. 171 University of Chicago/Hyde Park last week and boiled my review down to 140 characters, the size of a Twitter tweet. Check out photos at redeyechicago.com/busrise.

» @tracyswartz

22 min roundtrip from 55th St and Hyde Park Blvd through UChicago campus. Smaller bus, crowded w/ students though route saw no service cuts. **Next up:** No. 124-Navy-Pier.

KEEP UP WITH TRACY

Check out the Going Public blog at redeyechicago.com/goingpublic. Send questions via Twitter (@tracyswartz) or Facebook ([facebook.com/tracyswartz](https://www.facebook.com/tracyswartz)).

CTA bus drivers weigh in on cuts

CTA riders weren't alone in their frustration over service cuts that took effect last week. Going Public has been hearing from CTA bus drivers who say riders have been taking out their dissatisfaction on them.

"They make you feel like you're the guy in charge and ask, 'Why are you letting this happen?'" one longtime bus driver told GP on the condition of anonymity. "It gets to the point where you just ignore it."

GP met with a couple of bus drivers last week near the Jefferson Blue Line stop to talk about how their jobs have changed since service cuts. The drivers, who belong to Amalgamated Transit Union Local 241, the CTA's bus workers' union, say working in customer service has become more difficult since some riders blame the unions for the service cuts.

More than 900 bus drivers were laid off last week after the CTA and the unions failed to reach an agreement on how to plug a \$95 million hole in the CTA's budget. The CTA asked for union employee concessions, such as pay cuts, but the unions felt they had already made enough concessions in the past. As a result, eight of nine rail lines and all but about 20 bus routes saw service reductions.

At a news conference Saturday, ATU 241 president Darrell Jefferson said bus drivers have been working overtime to compensate for the layoffs. To help ensure safety of drivers and riders, Jefferson said bus drivers would slow down service by adhering strictly to the CTA-imposed 35 mph speed limit. ATU 241 spokesman A.C. McLean said he hopes the union will resume talks with the CTA this week.

In the meantime, hostility abounds on some CTA buses, according to e-mails, Facebook messages and tweets sent to GP. Loyola student Faith Moore said an "extremely rude and sassy" bus driver kicked her off the No. 22 Clark bus last week after the card reader failed to accept her U-Pass, which gives unlimited rides to students at some Chicago colleges. Moore, of Rogers Park, said she didn't have change for the bus.

"I just felt completely disrespected," Moore wrote to GP. "I'm sure other people have had worse experiences, like waiting 45 [minutes] for a bus or having coffee spilled on them because the bus was full and hit a pothole. For me, though, this was absolutely horrifying."

Live ... from Tribune Tower

"GP" is hosting a live chat about the CTA at 11 a.m. Tuesday. Join us at redeyechicago.com/goingpublic, where you can get your CTA questions answered.

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A
Chicago Tribune
publication

redeyechicago.com
twitter: @redeyechicago
[facebook.com/theredeye](https://www.facebook.com/theredeye)

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Classifieds: 312-222-2444

Home Delivery: 1-800-TRIBUNE

Circulation: redservice@tribune.com

A SIB OF THE TRIB

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—Tim Flowers
MBA student

NLU

I got it here.

WEST SIDE STORY

**Chicago's little 'hood
that could on verge
of a second chance**

By Tracy Swartz
REDEYE

Maybe Jessa Brinkmeyer was before her time.

When she opened her eco-fashion shop Pivot in September 2007, she avoided the typical boutique hot spots in Bucktown and Lincoln Park. She said she launched her store at Fulton Market and Aberdeen Street in the West Loop because of its gritty feel and proximity to "a lot of promising development."

But by forgoing an area with high visibility and accessibility in favor of an offbeat spot, Brinkmeyer said, she missed out on a lot of foot traffic. She and other boutique owners even resorted to drawing maps to their shops and handing them out to local residents. Finally, after about two years in business, Brinkmeyer closed Pivot's doors last fall.

Other retailers recently have left the West Loop. Bess & Loie, a boutique known for its upscale bags, shut down in November while the nearby Erin Gallagher Jewelry shop relocated to Lincoln Park in September.

Maria Pinto, a favorite designer of Michelle Obama, also announced this week she would close her West Loop boutique, according to news reports. This year, the neighborhood's star attraction, Oprah, will be gone too—though she plans to keep her West Loop studio. The moves come at a time of transition for the West Loop, and that change may bring new success.

Residents and business owners say the neighborhood, which lured artists and restaurant owners for years because it's edgy and not heavily populated, seems to be changing from

a hidden gem that's home to meat markets and indie businesses to a more urbanized spot.

A new elementary school that opened in September is attracting more families, Armando Chacon, a West Loop real estate agent said, while a future CTA station likely will draw an influx of shoppers and tourists to the boutiques and galleries that define the neighborhood.

And while these changes will help put the West Loop on the map, some residents worry this Near West Side hamlet eventually will lose its quiet appeal and turn into a neighborhood that bustles like Wicker Park.

"I like Wicker Park and all, but I would like the West Loop to continue the face it has,"

said Mike Michonski, 30, who moved from Barrington to the West Loop a few months ago. "It doesn't have to be a focal point. It's just a good crossroads."

If you're not looking for the neighborhood itself or Oprah, the West Loop may be easy to pass by.

The neighborhood's borders are Ashland Avenue on the west, the Chicago River on the east, Grand Avenue on the north and the Eisenhower Expressway on the south, according to West Loop Community Organization.

Easily convenient by car because it's sandwiched between the Kennedy and Eisenhower expressways, the West Loop will improve its

public transit accessibility with the new CTA station at Morgan and Lake streets on the Green and Pink lines in the northeast section of the neighborhood.

Construction on the new stop, which is expected to cost up to \$40 million, is slated to start in the spring. The station should open in spring 2012, said Brian Steele, spokesman for the Chicago Department of Transportation, which is overseeing the project.

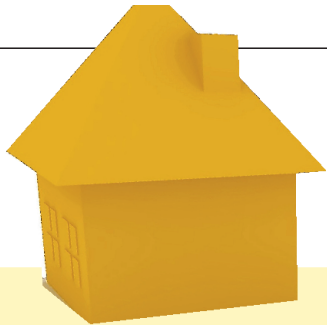
There once was a CTA station at Halsted and Lake streets, in the heart of the West Loop, but the CTA shuttered the stop in the mid-1990s when it refurbished the Green Line. Now there are two nearby CTA stops off Clinton



ABOVE Ahsan Rizvi, who lives and works in the West Loop, says one of the neighborhood's appealing qualities is that it's quiet.



LEFT Jessa Brinkmeyer stands in front of the former location of her eco-fashion shop, Pivot. Brinkmeyer, a West Loop resident, was forced to close her shop last fall. **KATE DOUGHERTY PHOTOS FOR REDEYE**



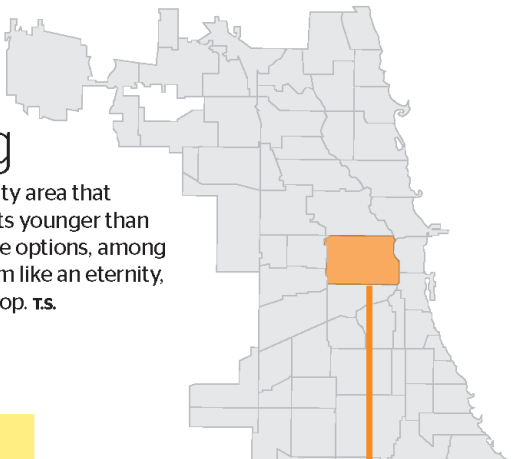
In the house

Maurice Ortiz of Apartment People said average rents for one- and two-bedroom units in the West Loop have dropped nearly 5 percent from 2008. Average rent for one-bedroom, one-bath units is \$1,450 while two-bedroom, two-bath units run \$1,900.

- » **22,191:** Total housing units
- » **19,366:** Occupied housing units
- » **2,825:** Vacant housing units
- » **14,029:** Renter-occupied units
- » **\$37,266:** Median household income

A neighborhood, numerically speaking

In June, RedEye declared the Near West Side, a community area that includes the West Loop, one of the hottest areas for adults younger than 35. We evaluated the area's bike friendliness and its booze options, among other factors. Because eight months sometimes can seem like an eternity, we've updated the numbers to keep you in the (West) Loop. **T.S.**



By the Census numbers

according to the Metro Chicago Information Center

48,180

Estimated population for the Near West Side in 2009

23,518

Male population

24,662

Female population

8,714

Number of 18- to 24-year-olds

10,401

Number of 25- to 34-year-olds

6,521

Number of 35- to 44-year-olds

Magnificent miles

The Near West Side is 5.68 square miles, according to city data. The area includes neighborhoods Little Italy, University Village, Greektown, the Fulton River District, the Illinois Medical District and most of the West Loop, which has borders of Ashland Avenue on the west, the Chicago River on the east, Grand Avenue on the north and the Eisenhower Expressway on the south, according to the West Loop Community Organization. A sliver of the West Loop also is located in West Town.



Bike friendliness

The city has 152 bike rack locations on the Near West Side, not including racks at CTA stations, according to data from the Chicago Department of Transportation. There are three bike shops in the Near West Side but none in the West Loop, CDOT data shows.

Booze options

There are eight Near West Side bars allowed to stay open until 4 a.m. on weekdays, according to December data provided by the Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection. Six bars are in the West Loop. Five out of six of those bars are on a strip of Halsted Street between West Wayman Street and Van Buren Street, RedEye found.



Caffeine fixes

There are 13 Starbucks locations in the Near West Side, including four in the West Loop, according to **starbucks.com**.



Bad footwear

There are two retail locations on the Near West Side where Crocs are sold, **crocs.com** shows. Neither of these locations are in the West Loop.

Street and a Blue Line stop at the intersection of Halsted Street and Grand and Milwaukee avenues. The No. 8 Halsted bus and the No. 20 Madison bus also help give the neighborhood exposure.

Ahsan Rizvi, 26, said he is looking forward to the new station, though he mostly uses his car to get around his new West Loop neighborhood. Rizvi said he was motivated to move from Wicker Park to the West Loop last summer because of the West Loop's parking options and cheaper rent.

Chacon said West Loop rents are on par with Wicker Park and Lincoln Park, but Rizvi said he got a better deal in the West Loop: \$1,800 per month for a two-bedroom, two-bathroom in West Loop. Comparable apartments in the Bucktown/Wicker Park area were more than \$2,000 a month, Rizvi said.

"It's quiet, not like Wicker Park and

Bucktown, where it's crowded," he said. Rizvi isn't the only Chicagoan to forgo the Wicker Park area in favor of the West Loop. The West Loop is the future home of the new restaurant by "Top Chef" Season 4 winner Stephanie Izard, whose former restaurant, Scylla, was in the Bucktown area. The Girl and the Goat is opening early this spring near Halsted and Randolph streets, Izard told RedEye. "It is a great area because it is easy to get to from all neighborhoods including the suburbs. Also, Randolph [Street] is filled with great restaurants and just has a great vibe," Izard told RedEye in an e-mail. The new restaurants and amenities such as Starbucks (now with a few loca-

tions on Madison Street) and Dominicks in Greektown have helped lure residents from higher density areas on the North Side, said Chacon, a West Loop resident and real estate agent for the area for six years. And while Oprah canceling her name-sake show (but keeping her studio) is "a blow" to the West Loop, Chacon said, her departure does not hinder the neighborhood growth in the coming years. "It's sort of become a self-dependent, reliant neighborhood," Chacon said. "A lot of what you need you can get in the neighborhood where you would have had to drive five, 10 years ago."

TSWARTZ@TRIBUNE.COM

FUNDING SHOWDOWN

To pay for the new West Loop CTA stop, the city will rely on federal funding and tax increment financing, or TIF, money intended to promote redevelopment in certain areas in the city. TIF funding is not typically used for transit stations. This money helped speed up the construction process because capital funding for projects such as the CTA stop is difficult to secure, said Brian Steele, spokesman for the Chicago Department of Transportation, which is overseeing the project. The use of the TIF funds is upsetting the Randolph-Fulton Market Association, which says the West Loop shouldn't have to foot the bill for the station, especially because the area lost its CTA station in the mid-1990s. "We're excited to have the station come, but please, don't raid our local development fund," said Roger Romanelli, executive director of the association.

chicago



Firefighters investigate the scene Monday after a fatal fire that killed seven people early Sunday in Cicero. ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE PHOTO

'I JUST LOST A WHOLE LOT'

Grandfather stunned by deaths of five family members in Cicero fire

Associated Press

CICERO A grandfather who had been planning to spend his weekend with his family celebrating his birthday and the arrival of a new grandson instead mourned the loss of three children, two grandchildren and two friends in a suburban Chicago fire.

Elijah Grays lost his 18-year-old daughter, Sally Gist, 16-year-old twins Elicia and Elijah Gist and Sally's sons, Rayshawn Gist, 3, and 3-day-old Byron Reed, in the blaze early Sunday that engulfed a three-story building where the family lived in Cicero.

"I just lost a whole lot," Grays told the Tribune, tears streaming down his face. "I'm just really hurt."

Sally's 20-year-old boyfriend, Byron Reed, and Tiera Davidson, a 19-year-old family friend, also perished in the fire.

"They lost everything, literally everything," said Kym Hackett, a family friend. "They're doing the best they can."

Ron Opalecky, Cicero assistant fire marshal, said investigators were trying to determine how the fire started, although they believed it originated in the back of the home. He said nothing has been ruled out.

"When we got in there, you could barely tell what was there," Opalecky said.

Two victims were found on the first floor and five victims in the attic, he said. The Tribune said a single stairwell appeared to

have been the only means of access to the uppermost room in the house.

He said smoke alarms were fitted in the building and were sounding when firefighters arrived at the scene.

Cicero town spokesman Ray Hanania, who provided identities of the deceased to the AP, said 23 other people escaped the fire Sunday and 20 of them needed alternative shelter. The tragedy has raised concerns about overcrowding, Hanania said.

"The big concern is how many people were living in a building like this?" Hanania said, adding that town officials planned to investigate.

"This is one of the worst tragedies we've had here in 25 years," Hanania said. "I know everybody in the town of Cicero is just sick over this."



Betty Loren-Maltese, ex-Cicero president arrives at a halfway house. ALEX GARCIA/TRIBUNE PHOTO

Convicted leader lands in halfway house

Chicago Tribune

Wearing dark sunglasses and a long gray coat, former Cicero President Betty Loren-Maltese arrived at a Chicago halfway house Monday after her release from prison for her role in a scheme that bilked town coffers of more than \$12 million.

Loren-Maltese declined to respond to repeated questions from a throng of reporters and photographers as she arrived shortly after noon at the Salvation Army halfway house at 105 S. Ashland Ave.

She was escorted across a private parking lot and about 30 feet of sidewalk by a Salvation Army employee before they descended steps into a lower-level entrance of the 210-bed facility.

Loren-Maltese was living in a halfway house in Nevada but received approval Jan. 22 from federal Judge John Grady to finish out the rest of her 120-day probation at the halfway house.

Maltese is broke and homeless and will need to find a job, friends say.

Last month, her former administrative aide, Anna Maria Montes de Oca-Rojas, sent an e-mail at Loren-Maltese's request asking if people could help the former president financially. The e-mail included Loren-Maltese's address for donations.

Oca-Rojas said she did not know if anyone contributed but was "just being nice" and wants to do whatever she can to help her out.

The once powerful leader of Cicero, a suburb of about 85,000, was convicted of helping create a bogus insurance company that overcharged Cicero taxpayers millions of dollars, money that was apparently funneled to a reputed mob boss.

Her terms of probation include three years of supervised release and monthly payments on the restitution she owes the town of Cicero of a minimum of 20-percent of her paycheck until she pays back \$8 million in debt.

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AP PHOTO

Extreme igloo

1 Jimmy Grey, a 25-year-old out-of-work laborer, has built a four-room igloo in his family's yard in Aquilla, Ohio, complete with cable TV and surround-sound stereo.

Radio host challenges McCain

2 Conservative talk-radio host J.D. Hayworth officially kicked off his campaign Monday to challenge Arizona Sen. John McCain in the state's Republican primary for the U.S. Senate.

Pilot whales euthanized

3 Twenty-eight pilot whales died or were euthanized by conservation workers after a mass stranding on a remote New Zealand beach, an official said Monday.

U.S. alleges dictatorship

4 U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said Monday during a visit to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, that Iran is sliding into a military dictatorship, a new assessment suggesting a rockier road ahead for U.S.-led efforts to stop Tehran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

Activist boards vessel

5 An anti-whaling activist jumped off a speeding Jet Ski on Monday and climbed aboard a Japanese vessel in the frigid Antarctic Ocean to attempt a citizen's arrest for the destruction of a protest ship in January.

Space station upgrade

Astronauts successfully attached a fancy new observation deck to the International Space Station early Monday after a long, frustrating night spent dealing with stuck bolts and wayward wiring.

THE DIGIT

34

The U.S. government has received new complaints alleging 34 deaths in Toyota vehicles due to sudden acceleration since 2000. Many of the complaints have been filed in the past three weeks.



Grrr! Fido's on Twitter again

Twitter has gone to the dogs.

Tapping into the social media craze, toy giant Mattel is preparing to release Puppy Tweets, a high-tech toy that will allow dogs to publicize their everyday activities on Twitter via a sound and motion sensor.

Attached to a dog's collar, the plastic tag randomly generates one of 500 canned tweets when it detects barking or movement and automatically posts an update to Fido's own Twitter page.

A round of woofing could lead to a tweet of, "I bark because I miss you. There, I said it. Now hurry home." A frenzied run

WHERE TO BUY IT

Puppy Tweets is expected to hit toy stores and pet shops nationwide in the fall for \$29.99, although the company will show the product to industry watchers Friday in New York. Retailers such as **amazon.com** already have signed on to sell the toy.

through the backyard might garner, "I finally caught that tail I've been chasing, and ... OOUUUUCHHI!"

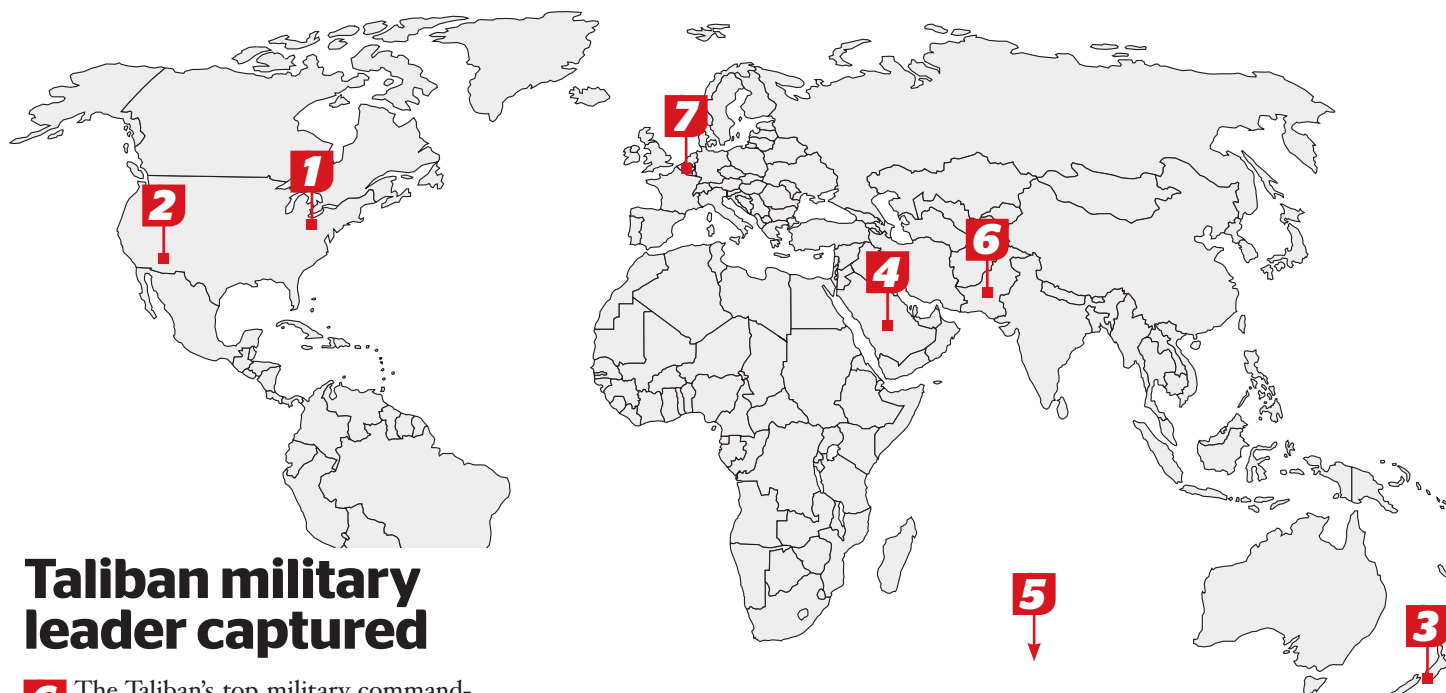
To use Puppy Tweets, dog owners are provided with a USB receiver that they connect to their computer. They then download the

toy's software online and create a Twitter account for their dog.

But before you begin to drool over the prospect of having your own Dug, the animated dog from "Up" whose translator collar allowed him to talk, Mattel executives caution that the toy is just a toy.

Unlike advanced pet gadgets such as GPS tracking collars that keep tabs on roaming cats, the technology behind Puppy Tweets is simply sending out random messages.

So even though Fido's device may be tweeting about tracking a squirrel, he could actually be digging a hole or scratching himself.



Taliban military leader captured

6 The Taliban's top military commander was captured several days ago in Karachi, Pakistan, in a secret joint operation by Pakistani and U.S. intelligence forces, U.S. government officials told The New York Times.

The commander, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, is an Afghan described by U.S. officials as the most significant Taliban figure to be detained since the American-led war in Afghanistan started more than eight years ago. He ranks second in influence only to Mullah Muhammad Omar, the Taliban's founder and a close associate of Osama bin Laden before the Sept. 11 attacks.

Baradar has been in Pakistani custody for several days, with U.S. and Pakistani intelligence officials taking part in interrogations, according to the officials.

It was unclear whether he was talking, but the officials said his capture had provided a window into the Taliban and could lead to other senior officials.

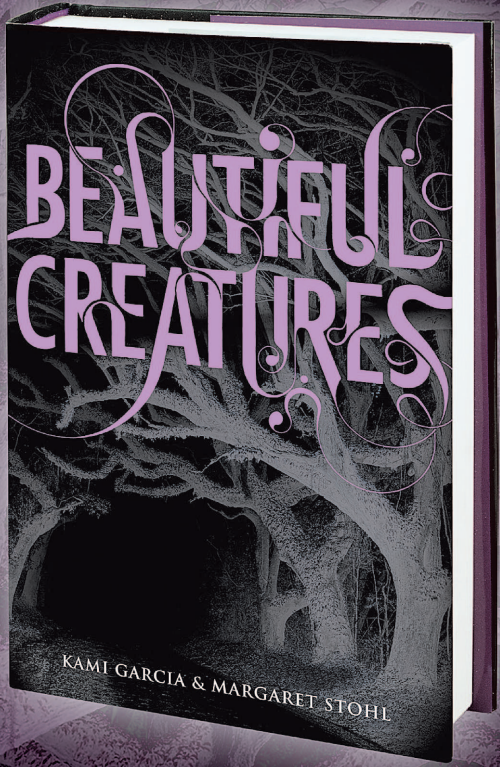


Deadly rail accident

7 An injured passenger is helped out of the wreckage Monday in Buizingen, Belgium, after a commuter train sped through a red signal and slammed into an oncoming train, killing at least 18 people and disrupting rail traffic in northern Europe. **AP PHOTO**

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Photo © Alex Hoerner



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olympics

It figures I'd fall for this event

The Winter Olympics are a strange sports phenomenon. Up until about a week before they start, I have no thoughts about them. Zero. They couldn't be further from my mind.

When they arrive, suddenly it's all I care about. In no other time in my life have I ever felt the desire to watch people skate or ski. There's one event I watch with particular intensity (and I might regret writing this):

Figure skating.

I'm a pretty manly sports guy. Football! Hockey! Baseball! Basketball! But figure skating? The sport is based on people in shiny costumes twirling around on skates. Not something you call the guys over to watch.

Yet it's riveting. I watch and try to score the skaters along with the judges. The landing? A little sloppy, I'll say 6.6. That jumping spin thing could have been much tighter. 5.0. When they fall, it's not only kind of funny, but also devastating. I always think of these people who have dedicated their lives to this sport, and on the greatest stage, they collapse. But they always get up, awkwardly smiling the whole time.

In sports, one of the best parts is you know the athlete's back story: where they're from, how they play, their favorite foods. But I couldn't tell you the name of a single skater in this Olympics. And it doesn't make a bit of difference to me. I'll watch every minute of the figure skating.

Maybe because it's one of the Olympic sports I know I couldn't come close to doing. If you want to tie me to a board and send me down a hill, I could probably get pretty good at that soon. But figure skating is another level. I possess nowhere near the grace it would take. I can't even balance on one leg for more than seven seconds (I really just did that).

I've never been one to embrace figure skating, but this year I've got nothing to hide. I love it.

At least when hockey isn't on.

SCOTT BOLOHAN IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

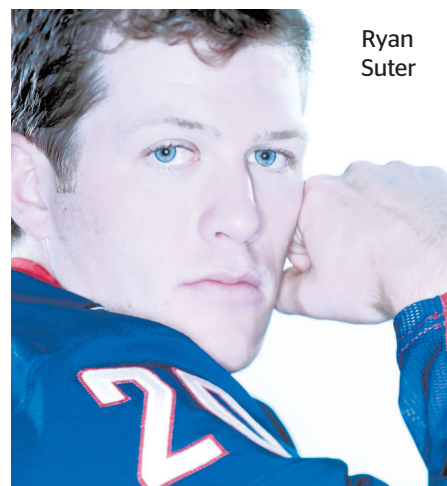


Scott Bolohan

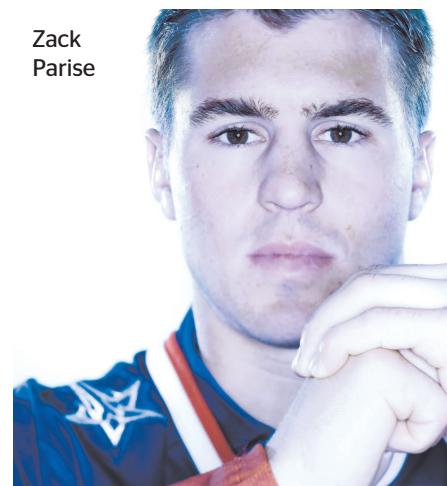
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Patrick Kane
GETTY
IMAGES FILE



Ryan
Suter



Zack
Parise



Dustin
Brown

txtable

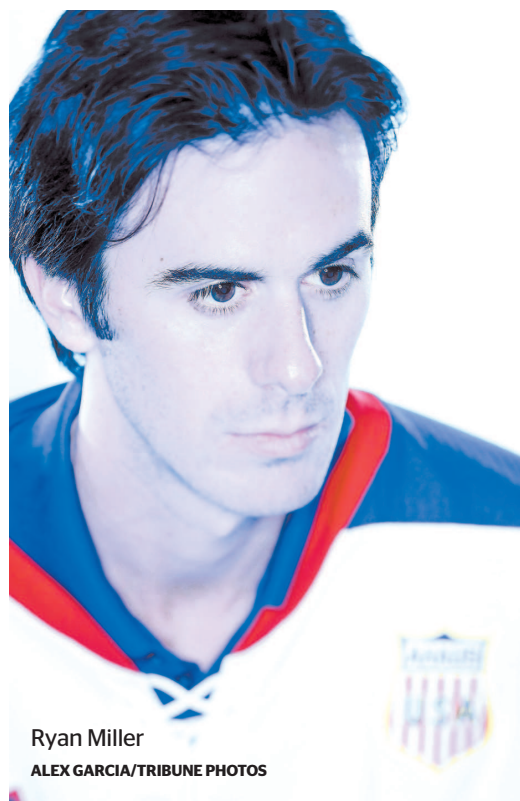
The Whiz Quiz

I'm eating up these Olympics. That's no surprise really; there's not much I won't eat. In the spirit of international competition, I'm quizzing my fans, er, readers on Olympic flags. Which country does today's flag represent? Text "quiz" followed by your answer to 87708. I'll text ya back to tell you if you got the answer right or wrong.



Kane & Co.

Blackhawks star and the U.S. hockey team debut Tuesday



Ryan Miller
ALEX GARCIA/TRIBUNE PHOTOS

NHL TEAMS REPRESENTED

16

NHL TEAMS WITH MULTIPLE OLYMPIANS

- » L.A. Kings 3 » N.Y. Rangers 2
- » Anaheim 2 » St. Louis 2
- » New Jersey 2

YOUNGEST PLAYERS

Patrick Kane, Eric Johnson 21

OLDEST PLAYER

Brian Rafalski, 36

RedEye

Patrick Kane needs no introduction in Chicago. But the rest of the U.S. men's hockey team might. That's what we're here for.

Before you watch the U.S. men's team take on Switzerland at 2 p.m. Tuesday on USA, acquaint yourself with Team USA. **AP, MCT CONTRIBUTED.**

GOALIES

Ryan Miller, 29
No. 39
NHL team: Buffalo

Jonathan Quick, 24
No. 29
NHL team: L.A. Kings

Tim Thomas, 35
No. 30
NHL team: Boston

FORWARDS

David Backes, 25
No. 42
NHL team: St. Louis

Ryan Kesler, 25
No. 17
NHL team: Vancouver

Zach Parise, 25
No. 9
NHL team: N.J.

Dustin Brown, 25
No. 32
NHL team: L.A. Kings

Phil Kessel, 22
No. 81
NHL team: Toronto

Joe Pavelski, 25
No. 16
NHL team: San Jose

Ryan Callahan, 24
No. 24
NHL team: N.Y. Rangers

Jamie Langenbrunner, 34
No. 15
NHL team: N.J.

Bobby Ryan, 22
No. 54
NHL team: Anaheim

Chris Drury, 33
No. 23
NHL team: N.Y. Rangers

Ryan Malone, 31
No. 12
NHL team: Tampa Bay

Paul Stastny, 24
No. 26
NHL team: Colorado

DEFENSEMEN

Tim Gleason, 27
No. 4
NHL team: Carolina

No. 3
NHL team: L.A. Kings

NHL team: Detroit

Erik Johnson, 21
No. 6
NHL team: St. Louis

Brooks Orpik, 29
No. 44
NHL team: Pittsburgh

Ryan Suter, 25
No. 20
NHL team: Nashville

Jack Johnson, 23

Brian Rafalski, 36
No. 28

Ryan Whitney, 26
No. 19
NHL team: Anaheim



Miller
GETTY IMAGES PHOTO

Call 'em comebacks

Associated Press

Comebacks make for great Olympics stories, and they come in many forms. Just look at what Seth Wescott, Bode Miller and Lindsey Vonn pulled off Monday.

Wescott came to the Winter Olympics as the reigning champion in snowboard cross, yet also as damaged goods. He hurt his leg and pelvis two months ago. He opened Monday's event by finishing 17th of the 32 riders in qualifying, but found his stride to reach the finals.

Then he found himself way back with five jumps left—only to make it up with a thrilling finish that snatched a gold from the host country.

Miller is America's most decorated Alpine skier and the guy who let everyone down in 2006, failing to finish higher than fifth. He didn't earn a medal at the two world championships since, and considered retiring before deciding to give the Olympics one more try. The result: a terrific time good enough for bronze, just nine-hundredths of a second behind the winner and only the third-ever downhill medal for the U.S.

Vonn was the headliner coming into Vancouver, then all the hype seemed for naught when she revealed a shin injury that made it painful even to wear a ski boot. But the bad weather was a blessing for her recovery and in her first training run early Monday, on the upper section of the course, she had the fastest time in the field.

Then there was a downturn. A bumpy afternoon run on the lower section left her hobbling again and hoping for more weather delays.

Tuesday's Olympics TV schedule

NBC

» **2-4 p.m.:** Men's biathlon-12.5 km pursuit gold medal final (live); women's biathlon-10 km pursuit gold medal final.

» **7-11 p.m.:** Men's figure skating-short program (live); women's snowboard-snowboard cross gold medal final; women's speed skating-500 gold medal final;

men's alpine skiing-super combined gold medal final.
» **11:35 p.m.-1 a.m.:** Women's luge-gold medal final; medals plaza-award ceremonies.

USA

» **11 a.m.-5 p.m.:** Men's ice hockey, USA vs. Switzerland (live); men's curling, USA vs. Germany (live).

CNBC

» **4 p.m.-4 a.m.:** Men's ice hockey, Canada vs. Norway (live), Russia vs. Latvia (live), women's curling, USA vs. Japan (live); women's ice hockey, Finland vs. China (live); men's curling, USA vs. Norway.

MSNBC

» **4:30-7 p.m.:** Women's ice hockey, USA vs. Russia (live).
» **2-4:30 a.m.:** Men's curling, Canada vs. Germany. **AP**

MEDAL DETECTOR

AS OF 10 P.M. MONDAY

Country	G	S	B	Total
U.S.	2	2	4	8
France	2	0	2	4
Germany	1	3	0	4
Canada	1	2	1	4
Three tied with 3 medals.				

Fight or flight?

Some Canada geese fly south for the winter, this one flew south(east) to spread Olympic love. redye.chicago.com/5on5.



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RAHULA STROHL
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CANADA GOOSE
redeyesports@tribune.com

1 How did Whistler Mountain get its name?

It was named by an old guy who whistles through his front teeth when he talks.

That's how it shows its appreciation of "The Hills" cast.

The sound you make when you stand at its base, as in "[whistles] WOW, that's steep."

Due to its lovely rendering of its mother in an oil-on-canvas painting.

It used to be called Honkers Mountain. I liked that better, but some thought it was sexist.

2 Olympian Lindsey Vonn's shin is the most talked about body part since ...

... Slammin' Sammy's whiteface.

... John Mayer's part, which is currently undergoing sensitivity training.

... her butt.

... Patrick Kane's fist.

... the leg bruise Sidney Crosby suffered Sunday. Sacre bleu!

3 Come up with a cheer for the U.S. men's Olympic hockey team.

"U-S-A, I wish you good luck. My bosses won't let me rhyme the word puck."

"Yes you Kane, yes you Kane ..."

"Kane, Kane, he's our man! If he can't do it, don't get hurt!"

What rhymes with "Hurry up and resume the NHL season 'cause the Hawks are rollin'?"

"U-S-A, silver's OK!" Sorry, but I'm not rooting against my countrymen.

4 Why are the Norwegian curlers wearing diamond-print pants in the Olympics?

Joakim Noah is their stylist.

Like Americans didn't have their Zubaz era. They're selling those again, by the way (zubaz.com).

We'll find out why in the season finale of "Project Runway." They made it work.

"Graceland" is just becoming popular there, and that's how "Diamonds on the Soles of Her Shoes" translates.

Those are actually V's. They were inspired by our majestic flying formation.

5 What will the Bulls do now that they have the United Center to themselves during the Olympics?

Stage their own hockey games on the ice rink. Tyrus Thomas still doesn't get playing time.

Do what all guys do when they finally have the place to themselves: watch "The Bachelor."

Lay around in sweatpants, eat Cheetos out of the bag, belch.

They'll still be .500, but this time beat the teams they're supposed to beat and lose to teams better than they are.

Turn the Hawks' locker room into a bird sanctuary. We're cousins, after all.

Uncle Fatty's

Fatty Tuesday

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Rose
CHRIS SWEDA/
TRIBUNE PHOTO

Rose still out

On a busy day first day back at the Berto Center, Derrick Rose sat out practice with his bruised right hip, Joakim Noah participated in about half of practice with the plantar fasciitis in his left foot improving and the Bulls re-signed Chris Richard to a second 10-day contract.

Rose hinted at missing Monday's practice in his comments late Sunday in Arlington, Texas, where he played 15 minutes in the NBA All-Star game.

The Bulls sat Noah down for the final four games before the All-Star break, so his return is an encouraging sign. The Bulls begin four games in five nights Tuesday night against the Knicks.

"I'm expecting to play," Noah said. "I'm not 100 percent but it feels better than it did."

Coach Vinny Del Negro said it's likely Rose will play. He sounded less optimistic about Noah, but a determination about both players will be made following Tuesday's morning shootaround.

Richard played well in limited minutes, earning his second 10-day contract and serving as insurance should the Bulls trade a big man before Thursday's NBA trade deadline.

» A French judge has issued an international arrest warrant for cyclist Floyd Landis, claiming the disgraced Tour de France rider hacked into the drug-testing laboratory that discovered his tainted samples.

» Offseason changes for the Bears continued Monday as the team parted company with pro personnel director Bobby DePaul, best known for engineering the trade for quarterback Jay Cutler, two league sources confirmed.

Lower Back Pain?

Are You or Someone You Know Suffering From Lower Back Pain?

Northwestern University is seeking volunteers who have lower back pain in order to determine where the pain is recognized in the brain. Participants will also be evaluated to determine why pain goes away for some people while it remains for others. This is a 12 month study consisting of 1 visit at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and 5 MRI scans at Northwestern Memorial Hospital's Olson Pavilion. All visits will take place in downtown Chicago.

Eligible participants must:

- Be 18 years or older
- Have a history of lower back pain which began 4-16 weeks ago with pain radiating into the buttocks or legs
- Be able to undergo a MRI (no pacemakers, metallic implants, or spinal implants)

Please call 312-238-0727 for more information on how you can take part in this research study.



**watch
dog**

WHIZZER
redeyesports
@tribune.com

Unlike the inextinguishable Olympic torch, I am already burnt out on the Olympic Games. Here now, my TV picks.



NBA
Bulls vs. New York

7 p.m. WGN

All-Star D-Rose makes his triumphant return. Eddy Curry, not so much.



COLLEGE HOOPS
DePaul vs. Rutgers

8 p.m. ESPNU

Fear the Blue Demons like you fear the ... oh, OK, I tried. They are laughable.



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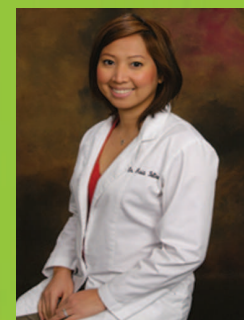
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metromix

GET YOUR BEADS ON

Gorge on gumbo

Where: The Southern, 1840 W. North Ave. 773-342-1840

When: 5 p.m.-2 a.m. Tuesday

The skinny: Chaise Lounge has morphed into the Southern, and its Fat Tuesday party doubles as a grand opening celebration. Prep for a night of \$5 hurricanes with a trip to the free DIY gumbo bar (6-8 p.m.) including ingredients such as andouille sausage, red beans, rice, shrimp and crawfish. No cover.

Cajun karaoke

Where: Moonshine, 1824 W. Division St. 773-862-8686

When: 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Tuesday

The skinny: Grab a \$5 SoCo hurricane while watching revelers belt out their favorite tunes. After a \$3 SoCo Lime shot or two, you might just step up on stage too. The kitchen's also whipping up shrimp and andouille sausage gumbo (\$15) for the occasion. No cover.

Real drag

Where: Kit Kat Lounge & Supper Club, 3700 N. Halsted St. 773-525-1111

When: 5:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Tuesday

The skinny: This Boystown bar is sporting a new look thanks to recent renovations, so you should too. Don a free mask and beads at this masquerade-style bash and sip half-price Cruzan rum cocktails. Catch a screening of Bravo TV's drag queen competition show, "RuPaul's Drag Race," at 8 p.m. and watch a live performance from Jade, a Chicago native and contestant from last season. No cover.

Bayou burlesque

Where: Blue Bayou, 3734 N. Southport Ave. 773-871-3300

When: 6 p.m. Tuesday

The skinny: Stop in for a \$6 hurricane and a \$5 bowl of jambalaya or gumbo while relaxing to tunes from the Daryl Coutts Band. The party takes a turn at 10 p.m. when Vaudezilla Productions' burlesque beauties strut their stuff on the bar top. No cover.

Party like you're on Bourbon Street at these 6 Fat Tuesday parties

By Samantha Nelson

The distance from Chicago to Bourbon Street? Nearly 1,000 miles. Despite that, we still have plenty of New Orleans spirit—after all, it's an excuse to party hard in the middle of the week. Are you ready to let loose, succumb to a hurricane-induced buzz and see exactly how many strands of beads your neck can hold? These bashes will make you feel like you're in the Big Easy.

Hot 'n' bothered beats

Where: Tantrum, 1023 S. State St. 312-939-9160.

When: 5 p.m.-2 a.m. Tuesday

The skinny: This South Loop lounge is bringing the Louisiana heat with smoking beats by DJ World and some French finesse by way of \$7-\$10 cocktails featuring French cognac Remy Martin (regularly \$10-\$13). No cover.

Bead collection

Where: Murphy's Bleachers, 3655 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-281-5356, plus eight other bars

When: 2 p.m. Saturday

The skinny: Can't afford a Wednesday morning hangover? Save your Fat Tuesday spirit for the weekend and join more than 1,000 revelers in crazy costumes on the second annual Bead Quest Mardi Gras Crawl in Wrigleyville. Grab a set of beads at each of nine bars for the chance to win prizes such as Cubs tickets at an end-of-the-night karaoke party back at Murphy's Bleachers. \$20. Tickets: festaparties.com

SAMANTHA NELSON IS A METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.
METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM

FAT TUESDAY DINING

Prefer to steer clear of wild Mardi parties and all of their top-lifting, bead-tossing glory? Keep it low-key and savor the flavor of New Orleans tonight at these restaurants.

The Big Easy

1660 E. 55th St.
773-643-5500

\$9.95 two-course dinner includes jambalaya and beignets. Noon-9 p.m.

Big Jones

5347 N. Clark St.
773-275-5725

Specials include shrimp and oyster gumbo (\$19);

chili-cheese crawfish etouffee (\$23) and king cake (\$7). 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

Goose Island Brewpub

1800 N. Clybourn Ave.
312-915-0071

A \$40 four-course Cajun-inspired dinner with beer pairings includes crawfish bisque with Lincoln Park lager and

bourbon bread pudding with Rind Grind espresso stout. 6:30 p.m.

Jerry's

1938 W. Division St.
773-235-1006

Specials available in addition to the regular menu, including sweet potato fries (\$5.95), fried green tomatoes (\$8.95)

and banana rum bread pudding (\$6.95). 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Lagnappe

1525 W. 79th St.
773-994-6375

A \$20 package includes a dinner buffet, \$3 hurricanes and live music from the Phil Fornett Jazz Group. 6-10 p.m.

best bets

By Rebecca Palmore
rkpalmore@tribune.com

'Avatar' talk

tue 16 Film Row Cinema of Columbia College, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. 312-369-7420

FREE Reservations are full for this talk with Academy Award-nominated cinematographer Mauro Fiore, who graduated from Columbia College Chicago in 1987 and recently worked on box office hit "Avatar." But if you show up at 6 p.m. you can sign up for a spot in the overflow room. Discussion at 7 p.m.

Fat Tuesday party

Cuna, 1113 W. Belmont Ave. 312-224-8588

Check out this newcomer to the 'hood and try a \$5 Witch's Brew (rum- and vanilla-based cocktail) and more. 4 p.m. No cover.

Bourbon tasting

The Bar on Buena, 910 W. Buena Ave.

Meet Chuck Cowdery, author of "Bourbon, Straight: The Uncut and Unfiltered Story of American Whiskey," and get tips on imbibing the stuff. 7 p.m. \$30. 312-730-3660

Haiti benefit

wed 17 Vertigo, 2 W. Erie St. 312-202-6060

Support Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees inside the sky-high lounge. Includes Effen and Jim Beam cocktails. 5:30 p.m. \$35. RSVP: mia@miaphifer.com

Italian night

thu 18 Drinks Over Dearborn, 650 N. Dearborn St. 312-337-9463

Meet wine writer and educator Filippo Bartolotta of Decanter magazine and sample 12 Italian wines such as Barolo with small bites. 6:30 p.m. \$45-\$50. RSVP required.

Adler After Dark

Adler Planetarium, 1300 S. Lake Shore Drive. 312-922-7827

This month's after-hours party takes on a star-crossed theme with DJ Sean Alvarez and a presentation on astrology (8 p.m.). Bring money for appetizers, beer and wine. 6 p.m. \$7-\$15.



Our resident experts say it best.



"Ross gives you the tools to pursue your dreams. It definitely wouldn't have happened without Ross."

– Matthew Dashnaw, MD '09
New York
Neurosurgery Resident



"I am who I am today because of Ross University. I'm a doctor, I attained the residency I wanted, and I made friends for a lifetime."

– Paola Portela, MD '07
Illinois
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"I learned an appreciation for veterinary medicine and have been inspired every day to be the best I can be."

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\$1 well drinks and Bud Light drafts at **Atmosphere**, 5355 N. Clark St. 773-784-1100.

\$2 all drafts at the **Copa**, 1637 N. Clybourn Ave. 312-642-3449.

\$3 Jameson shots, \$1 PBR cans, at **Division Street Bar & Grill**, 2525 W. Division St. 773-252-2233.

\$4 Patron shots, \$6 vodka cranberries, DJ Timbuck2 spins 9 p.m.-2 a.m. at the **Shrine**, 2109 S. Wabash Ave. 312-753-5700.

\$5 burger and fries, \$3 drafts at **District Bar**, 170 W. Ontario St. 312-337-3477.

TUESDAY CONCERTS

twitter: @metromixchi

ABSINTHE AND THE DIRTY FLOORS, DOUG LAMBERT BAND, VINCE AND LORI COOK
8:30 p.m. \$8.
Subterranean,
2011 W. North Ave.
housecallent.com

BILL PORTER ORCHESTRA
8:15 p.m. \$10. Green Dolphin Street,
2200 N. Ashland Ave.
773-395-0066.

THE BOMBETTIES, MAD BREAD, JOEL BLUMENFELD, KENN SMITH AND VALENCIA BEY
8:30 p.m. \$7. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

CELTIC SEISIUNS
7 p.m. Free. The Celtic Knot Public House,
626 Church St.,
Evanston.
847-864-1679.

CHICAGO AFRO LATIN JAZZ FESTIVAL
8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase,
806 S. Plymouth Ct.
312-360-0234.

CHICAGO CAJUN ACES
12:15 p.m. Free. Chicago Cultural Center,
78 E. Washington St.
312-744-6630.

CORY CHISEL AND THE WANDERING SONS, DAWES, JASON BOESEL
8 p.m. \$10-\$12.
Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave.
773-489-3160.

CRACKER, BRANDI SHEARER
8 p.m. \$20-\$25. Space,
1245 Chicago Ave.,
Evanston.
847-492-8860.

SNOOP DOGG
8 p.m. Sold out.
Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

DAEDELUS, NOSAJ THING, JOGGER, ABSTRACT GIANT DJS
7 p.m. \$12. Lincoln Hall,
2424 N. Lincoln Ave.
773-525-2508.

DEEP BLUE ORGAN TRIO
9 p.m. \$6. Green Mill,
4802 N. Broadway.
773-878-5552.

THE ENGINES
9 p.m. \$7. Elastic,
2830 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-772-3616.

FOUR STAR BRASS BAND, IT'S ME AND THE DEVIL
10 p.m. \$5. Morseland,
1218 W. Morse Ave.
773-764-8900.

HOUSEMAN AND THE HOUSEWRECKERS, CRYSTAL GRAVY, DJ SKATCHMO
8 p.m. \$12-\$15. Martyrs',
3855 N. Lincoln Ave.
773-404-9869.

KJ SMITH, BRAD STASELL
8 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Clark,
3800 N. Clark St.
773-929-3680.

LAURY SHELLEY TRIO
8:30 p.m. \$7. Katerina's,
1920 W. Irving Park Rd.
773-348-7592.

LINSEY ALEXANDER BLUES BAND
9 p.m. \$8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St.
312-661-0100.

LIVING SACRIFICE, WAR OF AGES,



GETTY IMAGES PHOTO

SHAI HULUD, LIONHEART, THE GREAT COMMISSION
5 p.m. \$13-\$15. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

LORNA BOSTON BAND
11 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar,
10 E. Walton St.
312-266-7761.

M13
9 p.m. \$5 donation. Quenchers Saloon,
2401 N. Western Ave.
773-276-9730.

MR. BLOTTO, TREMBLING EARTH
8 p.m. \$5. Reggie's Music Joint,
2105 S. State St.
312-949-0120.

THE MUDDLAPPS
9 p.m. Free. Red Line Tap, 7006 N. Glenwood Ave.
773-274-5463.

PALOMAR QUARTET
8 p.m. \$5. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

PAUL CEBAR AND THE MODERN SOUNDS, CHICAGO CAJUN ACES
6 p.m. \$10. FitzGerald's, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn.
708-788-2118.

PETE GALANIS AND FRIENDS
9:30 p.m. \$5-\$7. Rosa's Lounge,
3420 W. Armitage Ave.
773-342-0452.

QUINTUS MCCORMICK, JOE BARR AND THE SOUL PURPOSE BAND
9:30 p.m. \$12. Kingston Mines, 2548 N. Halsted St. 773-477-4646.

RODNEY BROWN AND HOT ROD
9:30 p.m. \$5. B.L.U.E.S., 2519 N. Halsted St. 773-528-1012.

ROY RUBENSTEIN AND THE CHICAGO HOT 6
8 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. Sidebar (at FitzGerald's), 6619 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn.
708-788-2118.

SCOTT MILLER, JOSH KALMUS
9 p.m. \$10-\$12. Schubas, 3159 N.

Southport Ave.
773-525-2508.

SHE LIKES TODD, NO CONSULTATION, CHAPPO
8 p.m. \$7. Ronny's,
2101 N. California Ave.
mpshows.com

SWITCHFOOT
7 p.m. \$21-\$23. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St.
312-923-2000.

TYPHANIE MONIQUE
7 p.m. \$10. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St.
312-642-6805.

VINO LOUDEN
9:30 p.m. \$10. Buddy Guy's Legends,
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CSI: Ghosts

Suburban Chicago officers analyze the paranormal

By Christopher Borrelli

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Chicago Paranormal Detectives—four suburban Chicago police officers, two civilians and a medium—came to my apartment the other night.

I asked them to come to my apartment because No. 1, they have a TV show, “Paranormal Cops,” which has been a modest hit on A&E this winter and will have its season finale Tuesday, and, No. 2, I wanted to meet on neutral ground, outside of their typically haunted locations.

So far, for the series, co-founders Ron Fabiani and Tom Froelich and their team have investigated phenomena at the Frankfort Fire Department, the basement of a supposed mob lair in Melrose Park and the former site of Barat College in Lake Forest. My apartment would serve as a control—a place where they could demonstrate investigating techniques and thermal-imaging guns without interruption from the unexplained.

I’m not haunted, I told them.

Yes, the medium said, standing in my kitchen, you are.

Froelich turned to her. “What are you picking up?” he asked.

“There is a fellow here, probably 5-foot-10 or taller, broad shoulders and squared elbows, but with thick wrists. He has a little jowliness, but an oval face,” Moriah Rhame said. “He has bags beneath his eyes. The rims of his eyes are red. He has glasses on. He has all white hair. The shorter side of his hair is parted to the left. It’s thin on top but full on the sides. I would say he’s in his late 70s. He’s a nice man but chatty. Won’t stop talking.”

The Paranormal Cops began to unpack their bags in my dining room—electromagnetic field detectors, thermal sensors, camcorders, audio recorders, canary yellow police tape and plastic crime-scene markers.

• • • • •

There are a few things you should know about

the Chicago Paranormal Detectives before I go on:

Despite the name, they are from suburban Chicago police departments they asked me not to disclose. They say, though, that their supervisors and colleagues are aware of their extracurricular activities. They say they have each had at least one encounter with a paranormal entity. They add that they are not easily taken with the unexplained.

They turn down 85 percent of requests to investigate paranormal activity, said Pete Schlelich. And they don’t investigate at all, Fabiani added, unless “there’s some form of urgency to the request, some kind of crisis. And only in the Chicagoland area. We’ve got to take personal days to do this.”

Also, unlike certain paranormal investiga-

tors with TV shows, Fabiani scoffed, they will not solicit investigations. They were paid for the show, but never accept payment for their work—if they were paid every time they found something unseen, it’d be questionable and their credibility would suffer, Fabiani said.

Fabiani, Austin Weinstock and Schlelich have been doing paranormal work since 2003. In 2006, they teamed up with Froelich, a detective in a nearby police department; Scot Ziarko, a videographer; and Brian Jones, a guy with production company connections and a background in radio. They jointly pitched New York-based North South Productions about a TV show. The last piece to fall into place was Rhame, the medium, who met Fabiani at a psychic reading.

“The first reading I gave him,” she said, “I

saw TV cameras surrounding him. He laughed. I said he should think about a series.”

• • • • •

“OK, we’re starting,” Fabiani announced to the dining room. We sat around the table in darkness. Video cameras pointed down at us.

“There apparently is a gentleman who likes this room,” Fabiani said.

Possibly from Germany, Rhame said, though she wasn’t certain.

“Can he come by one of the devices and make them blink?” Fabiani asked.

We waited.

“Sir,” Fabiani went on, “if you would—Moriah can hear you and the rest of us cannot.”

The EMF meters began to beep in sync.

“Sir,” Fabiani said, “if this is you, could make



Pete Schlelich investigates activity in the basement at the Great Escape restaurant in Schiller Park.

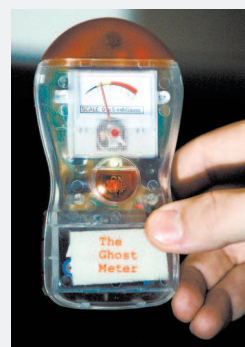


Investigator Tom Froelich with Chicago Paranormal Detectives checks out the Great Escape restaurant's basement.

CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE PHOTOS



Ron Fabiani (front right) and the team of Chicago Paranormal Detectives.



EMF, electromagnetic frequency detectors, are used by the team.

'Paranormal Cops'

9 p.m. Tuesday, A&E

If you buy into the idea that ghosts exist, then "Paranormal Cops" is a show for you. Not only does the show present paranormal possibilities, the cases almost always have the twist of involving an old crime. Good thing the "Paranormal Cops" are on the case. They wrap up the season with back-to-back episodes Tuesday.

In the first, "Meghan's Ghost," a homeowner contacts the paranormal cops when an unseen force chokes a guest in her home. Medium Moriah Rhame discovers that the spirit is the deceased friend of the homeowner's daughter, then attempts to stop the threatening behavior.

In "Messages From Beyond," Ron Fabiani and the team try to help one of their own when a police officer reports creepy happenings at the banquet hall where he works at night. The paranormal cops discover multiple spirits could be trying to get a message across from the grave. **CURT WAGNER, REDEYE**

them stop on the count of three, two, one."

The meters stopped.

A moment later one of the video cameras blinked out. The camera blinked back on. Then off. Then on. The pale light of the screen lit a patch of the back wall and began to flicker.

"That's a common occurrence," Fabiani said. "When [ghosts] attempt to collect energy to make something move or communicate, we assume it takes a lot of energy. It's common for us to have a fresh battery go out." Then he turned to Rhame. "Where is this man now?" he asked. "He is standing behind me," she said.

I saw nothing. Everything got very quiet for a while.

"Sir, no disrespect," Fabiani announced to the dark room, "if we're taking time out of our schedules, the least you could do is let one of these

things go off. Provided you're here."

The CPD did not seem overly impressed by my paranormal activity. Rhame took my girlfriend aside to explain that the ghost did not approve of unmarried couples living together. But the facts, as they were, proved nothing, everyone agreed. They said they would analyze the tapes and tell me what they found.

.....

A couple of weeks later, I received three audio files from Froelich, clips he said included voices. I played each a dozen times. I heard nothing. I called Fabiani.

"On review, we found nothing significant, but it's hard to be sure," he said. "People were walking around upstairs. That's why we don't do investigations in apartments or condos. Way too many dis-

tractions. You never gain enough control over the scene. Sorry."

But the EMF readings? The camera? My German ghost?

"Question marks. A power surge. Someone fired up a microwave. I don't know. Nothing we'd pursue."

I told him that since they had been to my apartment everyone I told them about had the same question: Do they believe?

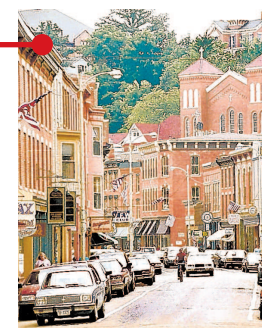
"People associate 'gullible' with 'believe,' " he said, his accent thick and Chicago. "And that's too bad, because those two don't go hand in hand. You can believe without being a sucker. But yes, there are things greater than us that we can't explain. Remember, the definition of 'paranormal' is just 'not normal.'"

CHRISTOPHER BORRELLI IS A REPORTER FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

FAVORITE HAUNTS

The Chicago Paranormal Detective agency's three favorite haunted spots around Illinois, according to the group's co-founder (and suburban Chicago police officer) Tom Froelich:

» "The site of the old Casa Madrid (a former mob hangout, long since closed; at 25th and Lake). The place where I experienced the most personal moments of discomfort and was the most creeped out. I don't know how anybody could go into the basement there and not feel something."



» "A building on Main Street (above) in Galena. An old casket making company. People talk about a lady in there with a pigeon or something. We have a recording of a woman we think is swearing at us."



» The site of the former Barat College (above) in Lake Forest. "We saw faces in the windows, and we knew there was nobody there. The general atmosphere is eerie, and the evidence we came up with is interesting. There's a story of a woman who was killed on the property. And we [detected the ghostly presence] of a male figure, very angry, who may be the offender who killed that woman." **C.B.**

whoville

Jay-Z
AP PHOTO

Have ya heard?

By Emily Rosenbaum Maka

Jay-Z doesn't want to appear rude, but he isn't keen on the "We Are the World" remake, which debuted at the Olympic opening ceremonies Friday to benefit Haiti earthquake relief. "I know everybody is gonna take this wrong: 'We Are the World,' I love it, and I understand the point and think it's great. But I think 'We Are the World' is like [Michael Jackson's] 'Thriller' to me. I don't ever wanna see it touched," Jay-Z told **mtv.com** Saturday night.

A lot of critics agree. The Washington Post griped of the song, which featured Miley Cyrus and Justin Bieber: "The updated take was horribly oversung ... save for the 21st Century rap verses added toward the end of the track." Wrote The New York Times: "Lil Wayne, you're no Bob Dylan. ... As a piece of work, [the song] has all the pitfalls of a Hollywood remake."

The official "World" video has been watched more than 5.7 million times on YouTube since its release and also tops iTunes' singles and video chart.

In other do-gooder news, the remake of R.E.M.'s "Everybody Hurts," headed up by Simon Cowell to benefit Haiti, debuted at No. 1 on the U.K. Singles chart Monday. It is the fastest-selling charity single in the U.K. in 10 years, according to Billboard. Susan Boyle, Leona Lewis, Michael Buble, Jon Bon Jovi, Mariah Carey, Kylie Minogue and others joined in on the recording.

So, the big winner is Haiti, and that's what's important.

But how do the songs measure up?



'We Are the World' remake:

Stating the obvious here: Cyrus and Fergie can't carry a tune and Bieber is a ridiculous child in a room full of grown-ups. Pity Barbra Streisand, Mary J. Blige and Jennifer Hudson. These true vocal talents are competing with screechy nonsense. The Auto-Tuning is embarrassing and the whole production is grating.



'Everybody Hurts' remake:

Far calmer than the "World" remake. Carey's dulcet tones are unmistakable in the gentle opening and most of the singers avoid the kind of vocal calisthenics that assault my eardrums. The arrangement is wisely kept fairly simple, although it's a bit too pretty. No one is really hurting here. Remove the irritating Mr. Bon Jovi and this is a B+ effort.

ONLINE

Read what RedEye's Curt Wagner had to say about the "World" remake and check out the videos at redeyechicago.com/showpatrol.

txtable

'World' gone mad?

Do you think "We Are the World" should have been remade? Text **"world1"** for yes or **"world2"** for no to **87708**. You'll get the results instantly.



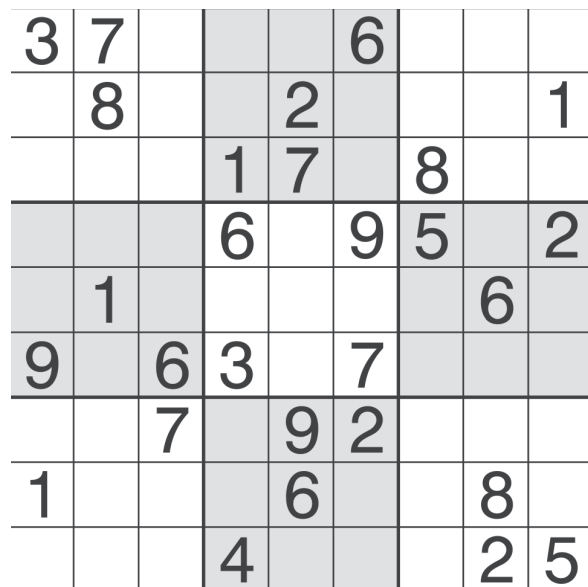
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1	5	6	4	3	9	8	2	7
8	3	4	7	6	2	5	9	1
9	7	2	5	1	8	3	6	4
7	2	1	3	4	6	9	8	5
5	9	3	1	8	7	6	4	2
4	6	8	9	2	5	7	1	3
2	1	9	6	7	3	4	5	8
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3	8	5	2	9	4	1	7	6

MONDAY'S SOLUTIONS

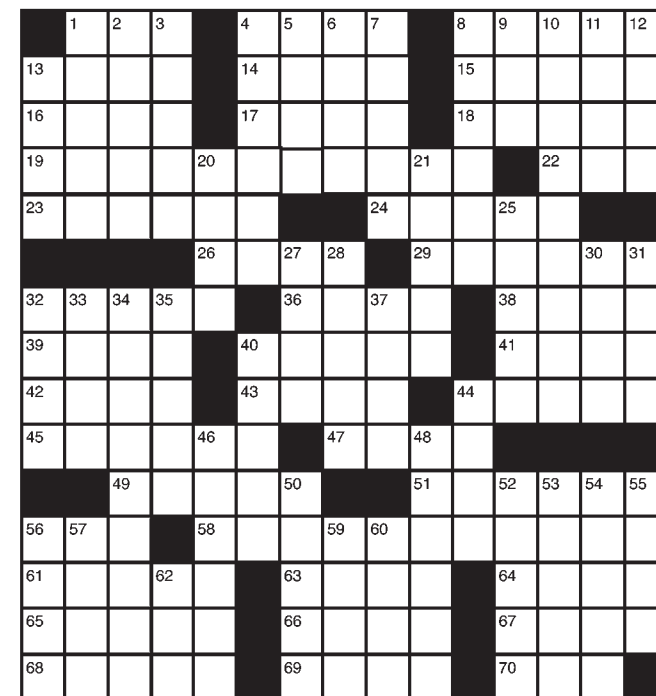
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ACROSS

- 1 Lard
- 4 Sullen
- 8 Running competitions
- 13 Pack animal
- 14 Go upward
- 15 Spring month
- 16 Doesn't give _;
is uninterested
- 17 At any time
- 18 Peter _ of
Herman's Hermits
- 19 Overbearing
- 22 Suture
- 23 Wore away
- 24 Bleacher levels
- 26 Out of _; inharmonious
- 29 Dirty
- 32 Bosom
- 36 At _; relaxed
- 38 French mother
- 39 Monthly expense
- 40 Up and about
- 41 Arrestee's hope
- 42 Region
- 43 Secondhand
- 44 Dromedary
- 45 Uninteresting
- 47 Bring up
- 49 Category
- 51 One of Nevada's
major industries
- 56 Hairy as an _
- 58 Third place Olympics prize
- 61 Slogan
- 63 Midday
- 64 Hawaii's goose
- 65 Epic by Homer
- 66 Swamp reptile, for short
- 67 Copenhagen
- 68 Express strong
disapproval of
- 69 TV show award
- 70 Underhanded

DOWN

- 1 Angry uproar
- 2 Hertz rival
- 3 Lukewarm
- 4 Grasping
- 5 Not taped
- 6 Drug addict



- 7 Earn
- 8 Texas lawman
- 9 Military addr.
- 10 2 x 4 that traverses
an empty space
- 11 German article
- 12 Murdered
- 13 Created
- 20 Bird's home
- 21 African nation
- 25 Cuban dance
- 27 Prohibition agent Eliot
- 28 Serve food at
- a wedding, e. g.
- 30 Soft cheese
- 31 Shout
- 32 Grouchy one
- 33 Rescuer
- 34 Vigorous
- 35 Word with case or way
- 37 Faction
- 40 Foretell future events
- 44 Study at the eleventh
hour
- 46 Nary a soul
- 48 Employment _;
- job-finding business
- 50 Explorer
Juan _ de León
- 52 Fixes
- 53 Perfect
- 54 Au pair
- 55 Delight
- 56 In the center of
- 57 Mast
- 59 Standard
- 60 Go speedily
- 62 _ and feather;
punish, old-style

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red hot



GETTY IMAGES

Megan Fox is feeling maternal

Megan Fox, normally associated with sex, sexiness and super-sexiness, would like to be a mother. "No one believes me when I talk about this, but I'm really maternal," Fox tells *W* magazine. She also reveals her fears about Hollywood. "I don't trust people in this industry, but I especially don't trust girls in this industry, because it's incredibly competitive, and I'm just not interested."

Franken-Heidi would like more parts



Turns out Heidi Montag wasn't initially as pleased with her recent plastic surgery-palooza as she let on. "She came out of the hospital, and the only

thing she was saying was that the doctor better hide," hubby Spencer Pratt told *usmagazine.com*. But Montag eventually came around. How do we know? Oh, because she wants a third boob job. "I didn't get them as big as I originally wanted," she said.



Lutz

Lutz's fluffer fears

Kellan Lutz shares his concerns about his Calvin Klein ad strip-down. "My nude ass is going to be all over billboards;

we'll see what my mother thinks," the "Twilight" hottie joked to *usmagazine.com*. He also says he had a few qualms the day of the shoot. "In the beginning, I was just, like ... 'Do I need, you know, fluffers maybe?'" he quipped.



Mayer

Mayer gets an offer

John Mayer's *Playboy* interview has sparked criticism, apologies—and now a promising job offer. Mayer mentioned that

his dream is to write pornography, and porn company Vivid Entertainment responded by offering him the chance to write and direct a new skin flick, *tmz.com* reports.

Doom body double?

Call it a real-life hip-hop "CSI." RedEye is trying to find out what's up with underground icon and almost-always-masked MC MF Doom, whom some fans allege sent a super-short impostor to a Saturday show at the Congress Theatre. Show promoters, including Cold Grums Productions, Inc., are looking into fan claims. Pat Grumley, owner of Cold Grums, said in an e-mail.

» Read the full statement and get more on this MF mystery at redeyechicago.com/kylesfiles.

THE DIGIT

24

For the first time ever, the "American Idol" judges will announce some of the 24 semifinalists at the end of Tuesday's two-hour episode. The remaining semifinalists will be named during Wednesday's episode.



Get a room

Are they getting it on? New film stills from "Eclipse" show Edward, played by Robert Pattinson, and Kristen Stewart's Bella making out in a meadow and a bedroom. Need more? Walmart will be selling "The Twilight Saga: New Moon Ultimate Fan Edition" DVD featuring a seven-minute sneak peek of "Eclipse" beginning March 20, *mtv.com* reports.